

## ***Two Messages***

### **A Message to Britain**

*Text of greetings to the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of Great Britain from the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party.*

*To the General Secretary, Communist Party of Great Britain.*

Dear Comrade,

We send our warmest brotherly greetings to all delegates to your Congress and to all your members.

We have followed with deep interest the splendid campaigns of the C.P.G.B. against imperialism and war, and in the interests of the British working class. And with especial appreciation we have noted the part you have played in defence of the liberation movements of Africa, and your vanguard role in the great popular movement against apartheid and for the boycott of South African goods.

It is this movement which has largely helped to create the conditions for the great victory of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, which decided to exclude the new South African Republic after May 31 in protest against the racial policies and practices of the Verwoerd Government.

This victory has tremendously heartened and inspired the masses of oppressed and democratic people of our country in their demand for a new National Convention (Constituent Assembly) representative of all our fifteen million people without distinction of race or colour, with sovereign powers to frame a constitution for a fully democratic South Africa along the lines of the famous Freedom Charter.

Despite all the difficulties of working under conditions of fascist repression, we South African Communists are determined to play a vigorous and loyal part in this great united front movement; as well as to redouble our efforts to spread the living truths of Marxism-Leninism in our country and our Continent. In these tasks we are tremendously assisted by the brilliant restatement of fundamental Marxist theses in the world we live in today contained in the Statement of the 81 Communist and Workers' Parties drawn up in Moscow in November, 1960.

We wish you, comrades, a successful and fruitful Congress. And, again, we wish to emphasise the sincere friendship which all of us feel towards your Party which, despite its small size and great difficulties under which it works, has set an outstanding example of fraternal internationalism towards African and other colonial peoples.

Yours fraternally,

JALANG KWENA,

*for the Central Committee, South African Communist Party.*

March 24, 1961.

## **A Message to Africa**

*From John Gollan, General Secretary Communist Party of Great Britain.*

Africa is certainly in the news. It hits the headlines in the press and radio the whole world over. The rapid advance of the liberation struggle is making a big political impact, especially in Britain. It serves to bring out more clearly than ever before that imperialism is the common enemy of both the African and British peoples.

At a time when grave issues are at stake in the Congo, the British territories of Central Africa, and in the Union of South Africa, it is not possible to emphasise this too strongly

British Communists are proud to have taken part in this common struggle, especially so during the past decade. Before Ghana independence they were in the forefront of the struggle against British repression in Nigeria and the Gold Coast. From the first day of the Kenya "emergency" in October 1952 they led the protest campaign against the British imperialist policy of ruthless armed aggression.

When the 1951 Labour Government first proposed Federation in Central Africa the British Communists were the only organised political force in opposition; and from the time it was actually imposed upon the Africans by the Tories in 1953 they have never ceased to expose this form of white minority rule.

Before and after the 1950 Anti-Communist Act in the Union of South Africa the British Communists emphasised that this attack (like Hitler's attack in 1933) was only the first step in the further ruthless suppression of the African majority.

Since those days great strides have been made in the African struggle for liberation. Ghana, Nigeria, and Somalia have won their political independence, and so have the majority of the former French colonies. Sierra Leone achieves its political independence in April, and Tanganyika not long after. Kenya now has an elected African majority, and this will be achieved soon in Uganda and Nyasaland.

Since the first All-African Peoples' Conference in December 1958 the foundation has been laid for a united African advance towards liberation. The third All-African Conference in March this year will no doubt mark a new milestone towards this objective.

The achievement of political independence by 28 African States is a big step forward, but not the end of the struggle. Many of them are only independent in name. The imperialists are fighting back more desperately to regain their political domination and to tighten their economic grip.

Algeria is still waging an armed struggle for its liberation. Real independence for the Congo is now in the balance. In the British territories of Central Africa bitter struggles are still to come. Bigger battles against apartheid in South Africa are now in prospect. And it is in this situation that U.S. imperialism is striving to extend its foothold throughout Africa.

We British Communists will not rest on our oars. We will strive to extend the boycott of South African goods and stimulate greater opposition against the vile system of apartheid. We stand with the African peoples of Central Africa to end the hated Federation and to win freedom and independence in the three territories. We will strive to drive the Belgian invaders out of Congo, so that the Africans can achieve real independence. And we extend full support to the Algerian struggle for liberation.

This is not only our revolutionary duty and responsibility. It is essential to achieve victory in our common struggle to end colonialism and to advance the cause of African freedom. In sending our greetings to the African liberation movements we also give this pledge — never to rest in our duty to struggle to the end against imperialism.